



COMMUTER ALERT

04-260

Date: Wednesday, November 24, 2004

District: 8 - Inland Empire

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Interstate 215 To Close for Bridge Falsework

RIVERSIDE - The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) advises motorists that all lanes of the southbound Interstate 215 (I-215) will be closed from the Blaine/3rd St. Overcrossing to the University Avenue Undercrossing each night beginning Nov. 29 and ending Dec. 1. All northbound lanes will be closed between Dec. 2 to Dec. 4. The closures will start at 9 p.m. and end generally at 5 a.m. Monday through Thursday. On Friday, Dec. 3, the lanes will close at 11 p.m. and reopen at 7 a.m. Dec. 4.

The closures are required to allow the contractor to build falsework for the Linden and Iowa overcrossings. Concrete is typically poured within the falsework to form the final bridge. The new bridges should be finished by next summer.

Southbound motorists can detour the closure by exiting the freeway at Blaine Street, turning right on Blaine Street and turning left on Chicago Avenue. From there, motorists can continue on Chicago Avenue and turn left onto University Avenue, which leads directly back to I-215.

The construction of new bridges at Linden and Iowa are part of the \$317 million effort to build a new interchange at the junction of the 60/91/215 freeways. The project will be finished in 2007.

For project updates, call Caltrans directly at 1-866-60-91-215. Photographs of the construction process are frequently updated and can be viewed at http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist8/6091215/6091215project_pics_pg.htm. Planned lane closures for the entire project are updated weekly and can be viewed by accessing the Web site <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist8/6091215/schedule.htm>.

Caltrans advises motorists to always drive carefully around construction sites. Always, be alert, stay smart and ***Slow for the Cone Zone.***

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